

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please substitute the following paragraph(s) for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification, with the new abstract, as amended below.

~~A axial~~An axial flow rotary valve rotatable within a bore in a cylinder ~~head~~ head of an internal combustion engine has a port extending from a peripheral opening ~~(4)~~opening to an axial opening at one end of the valve. The peripheral opening ~~(4)~~opening, which periodically communicates with a combustion chamber ~~(30)~~chamber through a window ~~(8)~~window in the bore, has a first trailing edge ~~(13)~~edge. The window ~~(8)~~window has a second trailing edge ~~(12)~~edge. The port closes from the combustion chamber ~~(30)~~chamber as the first trailing edge ~~(13)~~edge passes the second trailing edge ~~(12)~~edge. The edges ~~(12, 13)~~ are disposed such that the instantaneous intersection point ~~(17)~~point of the two edges ~~(12, 13)~~ progressively moves away from the axial opening over at least 50% of the length of the window ~~(8)~~window as the port closes.